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Faculty Senate

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1-22-2019

# Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Agenda, January 22, 2019

FHSU Faculty Senate

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# Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate

Tuesday, January 22, 2019

Black & Gold Room, 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

- Review courses/programs approved by Academic Affairs (See Blackboard Faculty Senate course shell: Faculty Senate > Academic Affairs > Thursday, 13 December 2018)
- Refreshments will be served.

## Agenda

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Approval of Agenda**
3. **Approval of Minutes**
4. **Announcements and Information Items**
  - a. Ms. Jessica States, FHSU Information Security Officer. Invited by the Technology and Partnerships Committee to discuss DUO Security.
  - b. Report of the Faculty Senate President
5. **Consent Agenda**
  - a. GSCI 665 Severe Storms Observation (Academic Affairs approved on a vote of 10-0-1)
6. **Reports from Committees** (See committee minutes and/or reports.)  
15 minutes for Standing Committees to meet and discuss calendaring issues for the spring.

Academic Affairs: Stephen Donnelly and Helen Miles

University Affairs: Amy Schmierbach

Strategic Planning and Improvement: Kevin Splichal

Partnerships and Technology: Jason Harper

Student Affairs: vacant

7. **New Business**
8. **Adjournment**

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## Kansas Board of Regents OER Action Plan:

*Advancing accessibility to higher education in our state through affordable textbook solutions and innovative approaches to educating*

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### What is OER?

Open educational resources, or OERs, are openly licensed course materials that are free to use for professors and students and can be a replacement for traditional textbooks. Not only are OER textbooks free of cost, they can also enhance the educational experience. Because they are openly licensed, OERs can be easily edited to make content more relatable and engaging for students. This also prevents students from having to regularly purchase newer and more expensive editions of textbooks every year.

### Why is Textbook Affordability Important?

The cost of textbooks has risen roughly 800% since 1980 and is showing little sign of letting up. This is significantly higher than increases in the CPI, housing, and healthcare expenses. With the overall cost of higher education on the rise, students have been saddled with increasing amounts of financial strain and student debt. As a testament to just how cash strapped students are, the strain that textbook costs cause has helped create the severe food insecurity problems we see today on many college campuses. For many students, the decision to purchase a textbook can be the difference between them succeeding in a class or affording groceries for that week.

Textbook cost is an area where we as an institution can make a quick and significant impact in the reduction of costs to higher education. Making higher education more accessible via expansion of open educational resources can also improve retention for students who are financially insecure, yielding a higher average graduation and retention rate for KBOR institutions. Several other states like Colorado and Ohio have been pushing OER implementation for years and are already reaping the benefits. We can use some of their tactics as a model for how best to implement a plan for affordable textbooks here in our state.

### Action Plan for OER:

1. Incorporate OER expansion and textbook affordability into KBOR Foresight 2020 strategic plan
2. Create and distribute survey on textbook affordability to all students at state universities
  - a. Will provide standardized and concrete data on textbook costs in our state

3. Create a resource page on KBOR website as a centralized portal for all OER materials
  - a. All state universities can then easily access and utilize OER resources from other KBOR schools
  - b. Community and technical colleges can also access these resources
  - c. Should have links to separate institution resource pages as well (for example: <https://openaccess.ku.edu/oer>)
4. Encourage all state universities to show which courses use OERs in the course selection process
  - a. K-State and Pitt State already have implemented this and can be used as a guide
  - b. Would essentially allow students who are struggling financially to map out a path to graduation with an absolute minimum cost for their course materials
5. Create a statewide task force to address the cost of textbooks and share best practices between institutions for how to lower that cost
  - a. This would incorporate campus champions of OER from every school to share ideas and strategies for OER expansion
6. Provide access to Openstax and other OER resource pages for all state universities
  - a. Will give all state universities quick and easy access to OER materials for professors who want to adopt them
7. Encourage and facilitate the adoption of a grant based incentive programs for professors to adopt, adapt, or create OER for their courses
  - a. K-State has a good grant program that can be used as a model
  - b. Would ideally like to have a centralized grant system shared between all state universities and managed by the Board of Regents
8. Work with state legislature to receive more funding for expansion of open educational resources
9. Encourage Provosts from each state university to send out semiannual reports on the number of OER courses offered at their respective university to COCAO and/or the statewide task force (from #5)
  - a. Will help track progress and highlight areas of improvement
  - b. Can easily be tracked if #4 is implemented





## **FACULTY SENATE PARTNERSHIPS AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**DATE: DECEMBER 12, 2018**

### **PRESENT:**

**JASON HARPER (CHAIR), SHANE SHARTZ (SECRETARY), KAYVAN AFLATOONI, , YUXIANG DU, GREGORY KANDT**

### **NOT PRESENT:**

**GLENN GROWE**

### **PREVIOUS MINUTES APPROVED (OCTOBER 19, 2018)**

#### **1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

##### **1. Duo Security**

1. Required for all to use in February
2. Concerns over the use of personal devices.
3. Possible alternatives such as lists, fobs, etc.

Discussion: Discussed issues such as logins not working, concerns over device usage, and the possible alternatives that may be available to faculty.

**UPDATE:** Jessica States has accepted an invitation from Harper to speak at FS meeting on 1/22

Action: Invite Jessica States to give an update at January Faculty Senate meeting.

##### **2. Learning Management System Update**

1. Other university teams examining Canvas and Brightspace
2. Tested in China with mixed results

Discussion: Possibly changing the LMS may cause huge issues with content migration, faculty and student training.

Action: Contact Feldstein for an update on the current status of LMS consideration, possibly provide a more clear timeline and how faculty can be involved.

**UPDATE:** Harper contacted Feldstein, who replied, "As far as the LMS process, we are pretty much where we left off during our last meeting. All of that information, including the upcoming visits by the three top LMS vendors, is summarized on the front page of the blog <http://ltblogs.fhsu.edu/lms/>. The committee will need to meet shortly after the start of the semester to discuss how to coordinate those visits."

### **3. China/Domestic Contracts**

1. China flights taxed as income, difficulty booking due to contract timing.
2. China contracts don't align with domestic contracts causing issues.

Discussion: Concern with faculty having to travel with belongings due to the timing of the return flight being before a FHSU contract is issued. China contracts contain penalties but are due before the FHSU contract is issued. Committee believes there may be a 'due date' for contracts and wants to know if FHSU is following this due date, and if not, are there alternatives (such as issuing a contract without a final salary) to assure faculty they will have a position the following year.

Action: Bring this topic to FS Executive for more guidance.

**UPDATE: P&T Chair will contact AAUP for guidance.**

### **4. TK20**

1. Issues with accessing data for Tenure/Promotion/Merit
2. No real communication on how Digital Measures (Vita information) was replaced
3. Opportunity in new buildings to promote recycling

Discussion: TK20 doesn't format the data as nicely as previous solutions. Committee discussed the possibility of a report template so faculty don't spend a tremendous amount of time reformatting data they need for the various processes above. Also, there is discussion that TK20 may not end up being used as it is currently in the future, and this would impact any decisions made about how to format and handle faculty data in the future.

Action: Report to FS Executive for further guidance on this topic.